

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The Stock Market Strong at the Close—

An Improved Bank Statement.

Gold Ranges from 115 5-8 to 116.

WALL STREET.

SATURDAY, March 20—8 P. M.]

The stock market to-day was unusually interesting. Prices advanced and considerable profit was made by those who have waited for an improved condition. Attempts, backed by large capital, have been put in force to prevent this consumption, but they failed to achieve their purpose because of the natural influences heretofore described. The incidents connected with the growth of the country; the change in the values of some of the great staples; the encouraging reports from railroads that connect producing regions with the seaports—all these are facts which enter into calculation and are being used by shrewd men as a basis for their present work. Three or four days hence may show reactionary influences; but for the moment, the market is conceded to be strong.

THE DEALINGS IN SEVERAL STOCKS.

To-day were attended by the highest prices of the season. In point of activity and strength Union Pacific took the lead. It opened on Monday at 115 1/2 and closed to-day at 116. Western Union advanced from 76 1/2 to 78 1/2, and closed at 78 1/2 ex-dividend. Lake Shore is reported to have passed under new speculative influences. The price ranged to-day from 73 1/2 to 74 1/2. Pacific Mail sold at 38 1/2 a 35%, with a close at 39 1/2 a 35%. Wabash advanced from 12 1/2 to 13 1/2. C. & L. C. sold at 5. Panama ended at 113 1/2. Hannibal and St. Joseph was quiet at 24. Delaware and Lackawanna changed from 111 to 113 1/2. St. Paul moved from 36 1/2 to 36. Rock Island from 105 1/2 to 105 1/2. Northwest common from 44 1/2 to 44 1/2. Other prices will be found below. During the closing hours stocks were buoyant, and the feeling concerning the future was hopeful.

THE SALES.

To-day amounted to 250,000 shares, which were distributed as follows:—New York Central and Hudson River, 300; Erie, 4,000; Lake Shore, 15,300; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 900; Northwestern, 20,300; do, preferred, 1,300; Rock Island, 2,300; Pacific Mail, 38,000; St. Paul, 3,500; do, preferred, 100; Ohio, 7,600; Western Union, 200; do, ex-dividend, 5,000; Wabash, 4,400; Union Pacific, 16,300; C. & L. C., 1,400; Panama, 200.

HIGHEST AND LOWEST PRICES.

The following table shows the opening, highest and lowest prices of the day:

Opening. Highest. Lowest.

	March 19.	March 20.
Erie.	27 1/2	27 1/2
Lake Shore.	73 1/2	74 1/2
Wabash.	12 1/2	13 1/2
Northwestern.	44 1/2	44 1/2
Rock Island.	38 1/2	38 1/2
Pittsburg.	92 1/2	92 1/2
Milwaukee and St. Paul.	35 1/2	35 1/2
Milwaukee and St. P. M.	56 1/2	56 1/2
Union Pacific.	32 1/2	32 1/2
New Jersey Central.	110 1/2	111 1/2
Del. Lac. and Western.	111 1/2	112 1/2
Union Pacific.	49 1/2	51 1/2
C. & L. C.	5	5
Western Union.	75 1/2	76 1/2
Pacific Mail.	38 1/2	38 1/2
Panama.	113 1/2	113 1/2

ADVANCE AND DECLINE.

The close of the market to-day compared with that of yesterday furnishes the following changes:

Decline—Atlantic and Pacific preferred, 3 1/2; C. & L. C., 1/2; Erie, 5 1/2; Atlantic and Pacific telegraph, 1/2; New York Central, 5; Delaware and Lackawanna, 5; Lake Shore, 5; Northwestern, 5; Rock Island, 5; Pittsburg, 5; Milwaukee and St. Paul, 5; Wabash, 1; Union Pacific, 2; Western Union, 5; North-Western, 1/2; preferred, 1.

THE BANK STATEMENT.

is encouraging, inasmuch as it shows a gain instead of a loss of specie, and likewise a sharp improvement in the legal reserve. Had the statement been otherwise we might have seen figures suggestive of great excitement. The principal changes are in the loans and deposits, which have been reduced about \$5,000,000 each. Both the specie and legal tender average is higher than last week. The total reserve has increased \$60,000, and by reason of the large reduction in liabilities the surplus reserve has increased \$2,200,275, the banks now holding \$4,700,775 above the legal requirement. The manipulations of the gold clique during the week render explanations of the statement impossible. The following is a comparison of the averages of the past two weeks:

March 13. March 20. Differences.

	March 13.	March 20.	Differences.
Specie.	\$7,075,900	7,268,869 Inc.	192,909
Legatees.	51,043,800	52,151,800 Inc.	1,108,000
Total reserve.	\$58,416,800	\$59,400,600 Inc.	981,800
Reserve required.	55,870,300	54,604,825	-
Excess of reserve over legal requirements.	\$2,545,500	\$4,796,775 Inc.	\$2,252,275

THE GOLD MARKET.

Gold opened at 116 and declined to 115 1/2. Later it recovered to the opening figure, but the close was made at 115 1/2. The rates paid for borrowing were 1-1/2, 1-1/4, 1 and 2 per cent. Loans were made flat at 1 and 2 per cent for carrying.

CLEARING HOUSE STATEMENT.

Currency exchanges..... \$61,970,499
Currency balances..... 203,021
Gold exchanges..... 203,622
Gold balances..... 497,065

WEEKLY CLEARING HOUSE STATEMENT.

Currency exchanges..... \$425,767,449
Currency balances..... 18,112,381
Gold balances..... 22,101,943
Operations of the gold exchange..... \$1,842,479
Currency balances..... 236,358,899
Gold balances..... 75,385,000

THE MONEY MARKET.

The case in money on call loans was again well marked, and we quote rates at from 4 to 4 1/2 per cent, with capital abundantly offered. Foreign exchange closed up quiet and firm. The nominal asking rates are 4 1/2 to 4 3/4 for bankers long and short sterling.

THE FOREIGN MARKET.

Last London advice adds nothing to the information already published concerning late advances abroad, and we have nothing to present but the following figures:—Consols, 100 money, 92 1/2 a 90; do, for account, 93 1/2 bonds, 100; 107 1/2 a 107; 107 bonds, 107 1/2; ten-year bonds, 107 1/2 a 107; 200 Swiss, 103 a 103; Eric, 54.

RAILROAD BONDS.

These, in the late dealings, were firm and quiet.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE SALES.

SATURDAY, March 20, 1875.

OPENING—CALL—10 A. M.

\$100,000 U.S. Pac. 838 150 shs Un P. E.R. 53

600 do. 578 200 do. 50

200 shs W. Un Tel. 72 50 do. 50

400 do. 77 100 do. 50

400 do. 103 50 L & M. & R. 50

100 do. 114 20 do. 50

140 Pac. Mail. 85 20 do. 50

100 do. 85 20 do. 50